

having the (3S,4S) configuration, and which is essentially free of the (3R,4R) enantiomer, wherein:

A---B designates an optional double bond,

R₁ is -R'OR''' wherein R' is C₁-C₅ straight or branched chain alkyl and R''' is hydrogen or C₁-C₅ alkyl;

G is -OR₂ wherein R₂ is C₁-C₅ straight or branched chain alkyl; and

R₃ is C₁-C₁₂ straight or branched chain alkyl.

31. The compound of claim 30, wherein R₃ is a straight chain or branched -C₅-C₉ alkyl.

32. The compound of claim 30, wherein R₃ is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl or 1,2-dimethyl heptyl.

33. The compound of claim 30, wherein R₁ is -CH₂OH, G is -OCH₃, and R₃ is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl.

34. The compound of claim 33, wherein the dotted line represents a double bond.

35. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing the symptoms of, treating, or managing hypertension, inflammation, peripheral pain, gastrointestinal disorders, or autoimmune diseases comprising as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 30.

36. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35 further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

37. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 36, wherein the diluent is an aqueous cosolvent solution comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable cosolvent, a micellar solution or emulsion prepared with natural or synthetic ionic or non-ionic surfactants, or a combination of such cosolvent and micellar or emulsion solutions.

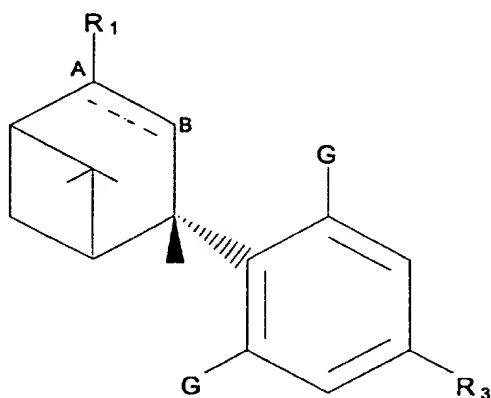
38. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein R_3 is a straight chain or branched $-C_5-C_9$ alkyl.

39. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein R_3 is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl or 1,2-dimethyl heptyl.

40. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 35, wherein R_1 is $-CH_2OH$, G is $-OCH_3$, and R_3 is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl.

41. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 40, wherein the dotted line represents a double bond.

42. A CB2 specific agonist comprising a compound of the general formula:



having the (3S,4S) configuration, and which is essentially free of the (3R,4R) enantiomer, wherein:

A---B designates an optional double bond,

R_1 is $-R'OR''$ wherein R' is C_1-C_5 straight or branched chain alkyl and R'' is hydrogen or C_1-C_5 alkyl;

G is $-OR_2$ wherein R_2 is C_1-C_5 straight or branched chain alkyl; and

R_3 is C_1-C_{12} straight or branched chain alkyl.

43. The agonist of claim 42, wherein R_3 is a straight chain or branched $-C_5-C_9$ alkyl.

44. The agonist of claim 42, wherein R_3 is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl or 1,2-dimethyl heptyl.

45. The agonist of claim 42, wherein R_1 is $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$, G is $-\text{OCH}_3$, and R_3 is 1,1-dimethyl heptyl.

46. The agonist of claim 45, wherein the dotted line represents a double bond.

CG 47. A pharmaceutical composition for preventing the symptoms of, treating, or managing hypertension, inflammation, peripheral pain, gastrointestinal disorders, or autoimmune diseases comprising as an active ingredient a therapeutically effective amount of the CB2 specific agonist of claim 40.

48. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 47, further comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

49. The pharmaceutical composition of claim 48, wherein the diluent is an aqueous cosolvent solution comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable cosolvent, a micellar solution or emulsion prepared with natural or synthetic ionic or non-ionic surfactants, or a combination of such cosolvent and micellar or emulsion solutions.
